(b) the names of the ships and the loss incurred;

(c) the number of personnel who died in such accidents; and

(d) whether affected families have received any compensation, if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Following eight Indian ships have been reported damaged or destroyed in the Iran-Iraq War:

1. M. V. Varuna Yan of M/s. Thakur Shipping Company.

2. M. V. Nilkantha of M/s. Himalaya Shipping Company.

3. M. V. Shri Vishnu of M/s. Reshamwala Shipping Co.

4. M. V. Vijaya Avtar of M/s. Vijya Lines.

5. M. V. Rishi Vishwamitra of M/s. Garware Shipping Co.

6. M. V. Archana of M/s. Shipping Corp. of India.

7. M. V. APJ Priti of M/s. APJ Lines.

8. APJ Ambika of M/s. APJ Lines.

It is not possible to estimate the exact quantum of loss suffered by the Shipping Companies.

(c) One cadet was reported missing from M. V. Vijya Avtar and one second Engineer was reported missing from M. V. Rishi Vishwamitra and are presumed dead. One seaman from M. V. Rishi Vishwamitra is also reported dead.

(d) It is reported that the affected persons have been paid compensation as per bi-partite agreement of the Maritime Union of India for officers and National Maritime Board Agreement for other crews.

**Supply of Skimmed Milk Powder by USA**

2390. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards Claude Alvares news report regarding hush-hush supply of skimmed milk powder by the United States of America;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that CLUSA representative is not posted at Anand;

(d) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that foreigners are not allowed to meddle in our affairs as alleged in the news report, and

(e) whether the Jha Committee propose to look into various points brought out in the above news report and also in the light of alleged failing health of Kaira farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Government's attention has been drawn to the news report entitled "Milk Powder for Operation Flood; Hush-hush supply by U.S." by Claude Alvares which appeared in Business Standard dated 21-6-84.

(b) The facts have not been presented correctly in the news report. In accordance with the agreement entered into between the Indian Dairy Corporation (IDC) and the Cooperative League of U.S.A. (CLUSA), the CLUSA will donate 20,000 M.T. of S.M.P. from the U.S.A. for creation of a buffer stock.

(c) The CLUSA representative has been posted at Anand with a view to ensure proper coordination and to speed up the implementation of the National Dairy Development Board

(NDDB) Vegetable Oil Project, under which NDDB will receive 1,60,000 M.T. of vegetable oil as gift.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Committee constituted by the Government of India to evaluate the performance of the Indian Dairy Corporation/National Dairy Development Board with reference to the specific objectives of the Operation Flood II Project headed by Shri L. K. Jha, will work as per the terms of reference.

**New Universities in Maharashtra**

2391. SHRI HUSEN DALWAI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to start some new universities in the State of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, when they are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) and (b) The Central Government have no proposal under consideration to establish any new university in Maharashtra. The Government of Maharashtra had however sought the views of the UGC in 1981 on their proposal to establish a technological university in the State.

The Commission agreed with the proposal in principle and suggested to the State Government to prepare a detailed project report and a draft bill. The draft bill is being finalised by the State Government in consultation with the UGC.

**Universities in States**

2392. SHRI HUSEN DALWAI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the criteria followed by Government in permitting setting up of new universities in various States; and

(b) what is the State-wise break-up of existing universities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) There is no provision under which State Governments have to obtain permission from the Central Government to establish new universities. The question of Central Government prescribing any criteria for the purpose does not therefore arise.

The Central Government and the University Grants Commission had, however, suggested to all State Governments that as a matter of convention they should consult the Central Government/UGC before proposals for establishment of new universities are finalised. New institutions should be established only if their need is clearly established on sound academic considerations and availability of adequate resources. For this purpose, there should be a proper survey of the available facilities, the extent of their utilisation and also an assessment of the projected needs in the future. Location of new institutions should be planned carefully and the existing ones should be rationalised to the extent possible, and facilities for extension of higher education should be provided through channels of non-formal education such as correspondence courses, etc.

(b) A statement showing the State-wise break up of existing universities is attached.